

The Hawaiian Star

SECOND SECTION

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HONOLULU, HAWAII, TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 1912.

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ATTEMPT ON KING VICTOR'S LIFE BY ASSASSIN IN ROME

ROME, March 4.—An attempt was made to assassinate King Victor Emmanuel this morning. Three shots were fired at the king, but all missed their target and his majesty escaped unhurt. His assailant was arrested. He gave his name as Antonio Dalba.

The king was just leaving the palace on his way to the Pantheon to attend the annual memorial service in honor of his father, King Humbert, who was slain by an assassin at Monza, July 29, 1900.

Man Fires from Behind Crowd.
Dalba fired from behind the crowd in the streets. One of the officers of the king's bodyguard fell wounded.

There was tremendous excitement in the crowd, which turned on Dalba, a mere youth, and attempted to lynch him. The police finally rescued him from the clutches of the mob.

The procession was passing along the Via Lata when the shots rang out from amid the crowd. The soldiers following the carriage immediately dashed forward and as they did so their commander fell from his horse.

King Calm in Crisis.

The wounded officer was moved to one side by some of his men while the others dashed up to the royal carriage, where they found the king and queen sitting calm and unmoved. Meanwhile the crowd seized the man who had fired the shots and attempted to lynch him. He was so badly handled that he was scarcely able to answer questions when he was handed over to the police.

The royal procession was scarcely interrupted, but proceeded toward the Pantheon, where the mass of King Humbert was completed without further incident, and after the conclusion of the service the king and queen returned to the Quirinal along the same route.

King Goes to See Wounded Soldier.

On the arrival at the palace the king learned for the first time that the commander of his escort, Maj. Lang, had been wounded, and his majesty at once started for the hospital where the major was lying. He traveled in an open automobile, and showed no signs of having passed through an ordeal.

Physicians in charge of Maj. Lang say that he probably will recover within a fortnight. His helmet deflected the bullet and he received only a slight scalp wound. The ball was found inside his helmet. He suffered more from the shock of the fall from his horse, which caused slight concussion of the brain and severe bruises.

The man who had fired the shots had in the meantime been taken to the police station.

Dalba Says He Fired as Protest.

At the police station, in spite of the man's condition owing to the mishandling he had received from the crowds, he was subjected to a keen interrogation. He declared that his name was Antonio Dalba, that he was twenty-one years of age and that he was a stonemason. He described himself as an "individualist anarchist" and said that he had made the attempt on the king's life as a protest against the organization of society.

He had, he said, taken up a position in the crowd near the Odessachi palace and waited for the king's coming from the Quirinal. When the royal carriage arrived opposite the place where he was standing he fired three shots at the king.

All the circumstances lead to the belief that the assassin of his majesty was not concerned in any plot of an organization, but that his deed was the outcome of his own individual aberration.

Pope Lays Act to Irreligion.

Pope Pius, who was told by Cardinal Merry del Val of the attempt on the king's life, expressed his regret and said: "These are the consequences of the irreligion of our times."

Dalba's mother said that her son, when a boy, had suffered from pneumonia and meningitis, which had left him weak minded. Within three months he was to be called for military service.

According to Italian law, Dalba, not being of full age, cannot be condemned to penal servitude for life. The most severe punishment meted out to him will not exceed thirty years.

The assassin, when interrogated by the police, said: "For a time I thought I would kill Victor Emmanuel, but I am satisfied with what I have done. Nobody instigated me to do the deed." Dalba does not belong to any political party.

He has been twice sentenced for theft and once for maltreating his parents. He was born in Rome, but the family came from Abruzzi.

People Prepare for a Protest.
In all quarters of Rome demonstrations have been prepared to protest against the outrage, whose effect has been to increase Victor Emmanuel's popularity among all classes.

People who were present in the Pantheon say that, despite the narrow escape he had just had, the king went through the service without a tremor, the queen likewise showing no signs of emotion.

When the king and queen left the Pantheon in their closed carriage the news of the attack on his majesty had spread and immense crowds had gathered in the great open square in front.

The king's appearance was the signal for an overwhelming outburst of cheering from the crowd and the excitement of the people almost reached frenzy by the time their majesties had attained the Corso, near the spot



KING VICTOR EMANUEL

where the attempt to kill had occurred a short time before.

Throughout the return journey the people along the streets and standing at the windows and on balconies waved their handkerchiefs and cried enthusiastically "Long live the king."

One of King's Horses Wounded.
On the return to the palace of the king's carriage, it was found that one of the horses had been slightly wounded by a bullet.

When the king left the Pantheon after the mass one of the veterans guarding the tomb of King Humbert called to his companions:

"The king is safe! Let us shout 'Long live the king!'"

The enthusiasm among the venerable soldiers, some of whom were crippled in the battles of the war of independence and all of whom are decorated with many medals, was striking.

The impression made throughout the city by the attempt on the king's life is one of the deepest concern. The news of the affair struck the Romans the more keenly because it occurred on the anniversary of the birth of the late King Humbert and in the midst of the solemn services in his memory.

The spot near the Corso where the attempt was made has been surrounded all day by excited crowds waving Italian flags and shouting "Long live the king!"

A large number of people also proceeded to the Quirinal, where they made another demonstration.

Kissed by Dowager Queen.

A most touching scene occurred between King Victor Emmanuel and his mother, the Dowager Queen Margherita. She had arrived at the Pantheon and was waiting for the coming of their majesties. When the king and queen came in they gave no hint of what had occurred. All assisted at the mass and when it was over the king himself announced to his mother that an attempt had been made on his life. Queen Margherita appeared almost stunned. She stood still and looked over the king from head to foot as though to make sure that he was unharmed. Then she threw her arms around his neck and kissed him on both cheeks.

Many of those present wished to congratulate the king, but he left the Pantheon without waiting.

Assassin Rode a Bicycle.

Eye witnesses of the attack on the king say it occurred at a few minutes after 5 o'clock this morning. Dalba, in going to the spot, rode a bicycle, which he left in the doorway of the Salvati palace. When the royal pro-

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MARCH OF SOWERBY PARTY TO RESCUE OF MISSIONARIES

PEKIN, February 20.—In a previous letter we mentioned the fact that a party of nine foreigners, headed by A. De C. Sowerby, set out from Taiyuanfu early in December in order to rescue the foreigners who had been cut off from communication with the outside world by the disorders arising out of the revolution. It now gives us great pleasure to chronicle the safe arrival in Pekin of this heroic party and the foreigners whom they rescued.

Whenever an opportunity has been given us during the last few days we have listened with rapt attention to the thrilling story of their adventurous journey on horseback, first to Sianfu and thence in company with the rescued missionaries to Honanfu. There are few things in this world more delightful to the ear than stories of brave deeds told in a modest and simple way by the heroes themselves. It was very difficult to induce any of the members of the Sowerby party to talk about their trip. They did not seem to be conscious that they had done anything remarkable or out of the way. It was only by patient questioning that we could get them to talk about their adventures.

Famed as Fiet Fighter.

The leader of the party, A. De C. Sowerby, is an Englishman, who has for some time been employed by the Smithsonian Institution to collect natural history specimens in North China. Most of his work has been done in the province of Shansi, where he is famous among the Chinese as the man who quelled a riot with his bare fists. Such a mode of fighting is entirely unknown to them. The Chinese who make any pretensions of being gentlemen never fight at all. Others either wrestle, or fight with some sort of weapon. When they are very angry they pick up a spade or anything handy and try to strike the legs of their opponent so as to fell him to the ground. Once they get him down they hack away at him until he is either unconscious or dead.

Mr. Sowerby was once attacked in a small village in Shansi by a band of hoodlums armed with spades and poles. Seeing that they were ready to strike him down he found it necessary to give them a little exhibition in the gentle art of self-defense as practised by western peoples. He struck out vigorously to the right and left with the result that four or five Chinese were soon stretched on the ground and the rest fled precipitately. Fearing an attack by the whole village he got his guns out and barricaded the house where he was staying, but the people did not attack him. They reasoned that if he could fell men with his bare hands he could probably kill them all with his terrible foreign guns.

Even with such a leader it was nevertheless courageous on the part of the little band to set out in such troubled times to journey the enormous distance from Taiyuan to Sianfu. The revolution had completely broken down all law and order in that part of China. The whole region through which they traveled was infested with robbers and undisciplined revolutionary guerrillas.

Travelled on Ponies.

The little party was well armed, each having a Winchester, a revolver and plenty of ammunition. Their mounts were Chinese ponies, tough little animals well insured to cold and surefooted as deer. These ponies proved very serviceable in the mountain passes, which the party had to cross a few days after their departure. The narrow ice-covered path which they followed across the mountains often followed its way along the edge of high precipices where a single misstep would have meant the death of both horse and rider.

The walled city of Sui-teh-chow was reached December 11. The inhabitants of this city had several days before been attacked by a large band of robbers, but had succeeded in repelling them. Being suspicious of strangers they closed the city gates in the face of Sowerby and his party. It was only after a great deal of parleying that they were allowed to enter the city. Here they found the missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. Watson and their children, and Mr. Cummerford, who were very grateful to them for coming to their rescue. The missionaries were just on the point of setting out alone and unarmed toward Yennanfu, when the Sowerby party arrived. Had they done so they would probably have been killed as the country to the south was under the control of a society of

robbers, who called themselves Ko Lao Hui.

Met Many Robbers.

Leaving Sui-teh-chow, the party, including the missionaries, set out toward Yennanfu. On the road they met many parties of Ko Lao Hui armed with every conceivable kind of weapons, ancient, medieval and modern. The robbers, seeing that the foreigners were well armed, offered no resistance to their progress. One night Mr. Palmer, the American member of the party, who was guarding one of the palanquins, was left in the rear some distance owing to a breakdown. His little party was accosted by three armed men, who, however, decamped on learning that Mr. Palmer was a foreigner and seeing his drawn revolver ready for immediate use.

At Yennanfu they learned that the missionaries there—Mr. and Mrs. Borst-Smith—had already left the city and were traveling in the direction of Sianfu. By making forced marches they overtook them two days south of Yennanfu. Spare guns brought from Taiyuanfu were given to the missionaries so that the little fighting force was increased to twelve.

As they approached the city of Yichu they were surprised to see the city walls rapidly manned by an angry and menacing crowd of ruffians. Huge old fashioned cannon were pointed at them in a menacing way. Mr. Sowerby very pluckily rode forward right under the muzzles of the hostile rifles until he came within speaking distance. Having satisfied the inhabitants of the city that their errand was peaceful the whole party was allowed to enter the city. All of the cities through which they passed were either in the hands of robbers or were making preparations to resist their attacks.

They often saw rows of heads hung up in wicker cages as a warning to disturbers of the peace. In the cities which the robbers had not yet captured the people were busy manufacturing spears and swords with which to defend themselves. In some cities the police had very few guns and had to depend almost entirely upon swords and pikes for their safety. If the robbers attempted to scale the city walls they simply piked them down with their spears.

Amusing Experiences.

The party had many experiences which would have been extremely amusing had they not been more or less dangerous. For example, at Yennanfu they asked the authorities to give them an armed escort through the dangerous country to the south. The authorities said that their soldiers were quite willing to escort them, but were afraid to come back alone.

When they approached the city of Loehu a large number of armed men came toward them and began shooting. It was some time before they realized that the shooting was intended as a salute. The people of the city had heard that a large number of foreign soldiers were invading the country and when Sowerby's party approached they quite naturally drew the conclusion that they were the advance guard. They had decided that the best thing they could do was to make themselves solid with the advance guard. At another city the magistrates called upon them and requested that the commandant of the "foreign soldiers" should keep his men in during the night lest their going out might frighten the people.

At Peitung Christmas was celebrated in a Chinese inn. Two of the party were sent out to get a Christmas tree. Having forgotten to bring a knife, they shot at a tree with their revolvers until it fell down. This made a tremendous impression on the natives, who naturally drew the conclusion that the foreigners had so much ammunition that they could afford to shoot trees down whenever they needed any.

Arrival at Sianfu.

Sianfu was reached on December 27 after twenty-three days of actual riding. The people in Sianfu had been cut off from the outside world for almost three months. Sowerby's party found that many of the missionaries there had set out for Hankow with an escort of revolutionary soldiers. They held many conferences with the remaining missionaries in order to induce them to leave. Most of them were anxious to leave, but were afraid of offending Mr. Sherrock, who was continually minimizing the danger and advising the missionaries to remain in spite of the fact that

GUAYAQUIL NEEDS CLEANING UP

Peru Today, a monthly publication printed in the English language in Lima, calls upon the United States to interfere in behalf of international safety, and clean up Guayaquil, whether the disorganized government of Ecuador wishes it or not. It was in connection with the recent revolution in Ecuador that the cruiser Maryland was sent from here.

In light of the increasing amount of commerce from South American ports to Hawaii, the menace to which the Peru Today refers has peculiar interest here. The article follows:

A Pest Hole.

"How long is an International Public and Big Business, which rules the world at the last analysis, going to bear the danger and annoyance of the Guayaquil pest hole?"

"Have the people on this Coast, and those traveling, no rights at all? What does Uncle Sam think of the constant menace to the Canal of such a fever breeding place and the sacrifice of his good men in the Navy and Marine Hospital Service?"

"These are pertinent and direct questions caused by the recent death of Commander Bertolette and sailors of the Yorktown and which surge in indignant protest at the regrettable loss of a brave and capable American officer and his loyal sailors whose lives are sacrificed because Guayaquil is allowed to be what it is."

"As in all good causes there must be a sacrifice, let us hope that these unnecessary deaths may arouse Washington to a realization that action must be taken for the protection of the Canal, if for no other reason, and doubtless the matter is having the serious consideration it deserves. What we want is action, such action as President Roosevelt thought justified when he determined to build the Canal."

"The Gordian knot must be cut, whether the niceties of international law are kept or not and the whole world will applaud any initiative that will make Ecuador clean its front door. This may be done without affecting their sovereignty, which means only borrowing it for the time being, to their great advantage and to that of the world."

"One of the reasons of the interference by the United States in Cuba was the recurrent epidemics of yellow fever in the southern States and the urgent need of destroying the source of that scourge, which lay in Havana."

"With this disease, as well as bubonic plague and smallpox within a few hundred miles of American territory through which a great waterway has been built at tremendous expense, is it not evident that likewise must this danger be removed as well as others in the immediate vicinity of the Canal, or at least those which there is considerable suspicion?"

"And the most ridiculous part of this problem is that the entire Ecuadorian nation will be benefited the moment a sanitary officer of the port of Guayaquil may give it a clean bill of health. Tourists and business-men will no longer avoid that land but will be delighted to visit that most interesting country. This will lead to investment and to the introduction of that foreign capital which its natural resources need for proper development."

"Let the really courageous and far-sighted statesmen of Ecuador face the cheap demagogues who oppose any action on the part of the United States not from conviction but as a political weapon and begin a campaign of education to show the masses that prosperity will follow upon the sanitation of Guayaquil because the foreigners will come with money and employment for all."

Morally as Well.

"It is unfortunate that recent events in Guayaquil have caused the civilized world to realize that if Ecuador is physically ill it is also morally so. The revolution of Montero, his trial, his assassination by a blood-thirsty mob and the consequent mutilation and burning of his body are indicative of disease."

"The brutal lynching of ex-president General Eloy Alfaro, and two of his relatives, and Generals Paex and Serrano by the mob at Quito, which followed the revolution, which fol-

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eight foreigners had already been killed in that city during the present rebellion. Finally all the missionaries excepting Mr. Sherrock and his family were induced to leave. The return trip of the party will be described in another letter.—Luther Anderson in Chicago Daily News.

FRENCH PEOPLE PINNING THEIR FAITH TO THE AEROPLANE

G. Husson, of the Franco-American Automobile Company, St. Catherine street, has returned from Paris, where he has been for the past two months on a business trip, says the Montreal Witness.

Speaking to a Witness reporter this morning, Mr. Husson said that the French people were chiefly occupied now with the development of their aerial craft industry, and the remarkable progress which they were making was really extraordinary. Nearly every day records were being broken and it fairly made one gasp to witness the terrific speeds which were being made daily with aeroplanes.

"The French people," said Mr. Husson, "have definitely decided to pin their faith to the aeroplane so far as I could determine, instead of the dirigible." In view of the fact, he stated, they are building them to attain high speeds as they think this will render them less liable to destruction in case of war. "Not only," said Mr. Husson, "is the government spending six million dollars on its aerial development, but a private fund has been started which bids fair to eclipse even this. This money will be presented to the government for the purpose of buying more machines for the army."

He said that no longer did the people of France think of the possibility of an aerial conflict with Germany as a myth or remote possibility, but now they regarded it as possibly becoming a stern reality, in the near future, and were bending every effort to be prepared when it did come. "This," explained Mr. Husson, "was the impression which one would gain by a casual conversation with the average Frenchman in France."

That this is a reality is borne out by the fact that during Mr. Husson's stay in Paris a very wealthy German syndicate offered a leading French aviator a fabulous price for an aeroplane invention, but the patriotic Frenchman answered them by saying that it was made exclusively for his

own country and no foreign power could purchase it. Already considerable secrecy was being observed in some of the newer developments of the aeroplane industry, as had been the practice of the European nations, in safeguarding other pieces of military ordinance. "It is really surprising," said Mr. Husson, "the development in the form and workmanship of the latest machines. Instead of frail weak things of canvas and wood, a large majority of the newer machines were almost wholly built of steel, and the pilot had before him as complete and perfect an array of levers and indicators as one would have in a motor car, in fact the cockpit of the modern machine resembled very closely that of an automobile." The general construction had changed vastly, as it appeared that the first consideration now was strength, regardless of weight. It has not been found necessary to sacrifice safety to extreme lightness any longer.

"A few days before I came home," said Mr. Husson, "I went out to Juvisy to see the latest Clement-Bayard monoplane which that famous firm have constructed, practically all of steel. It gave one an impression of wonderful strength, although it looked very heavy and as a matter of fact was very heavy. It has been established that these heavy machines are infinitely easier to manage in the air than the lighter and more frail types. They require a longer distance to leave the ground, but once in the air, they are much more steady."

While at Juvisy Mr. Husson met a Montreal boy, Mr. E. Antell, who, it will be remembered, built a machine here last winter, and met with encouraging results while conducting his experiments last summer. Mr. Antell is presently employed by M. Pellat, Paris, testing motors, and intends shortly to join the famous motor firm of Anzani. Mr. Husson said that the aeroplane industry was making faster strides even than the motor car industry had made in France.

LETTER FROM HONOLULU BY WALTER S. THOMAS

Honolulu, H. I., Feb. 17, 1912.

It may prove of interest to my old friends, who read the Miami Union, to have a brief sketch of my wanderings since I left Troy Dec. 21, to escape the rigors of an Ohio winter.

Our first stop was in Canon City, Colorado, where we spent three delightful weeks in that charming little town, nestling at the mouth of the famous Royal Gorge, with the mighty rampart of the Rocky Mountains shutting it in from the west, the snow-covered peaks glistening like silver under the rays of the morning sun. There is something incomparably grand and imposing and not to be described in words, in that splendid mountain range that extends from north to south as far as the eye can reach. Day by day, the fascination grows upon the pilgrim from the plains until his soul is fairly lost in the wonder of it all.

This pleasant break in our westward journey, was ended when we started on our flying six-hour trip to the Pacific coast over the Denver & Rio Grande railroad to Salt Lake City, which was a continuous ever-varying mountain panorama, of which we never tired as we viewed it from the luxurious observation car.

From Salt Lake City we traveled by the Western Pacific railway, the new line opened eighteen months ago to the public. In scenic beauty the road arouses the enthusiasm of the traveler as it traverses the picturesque Feather River valley.

Our stay in San Francisco was brief but we had time to note its wonderful growth since we were there in May, 1910. The rehabilitation of the city since the great earthquake and fire in April, 1906, is the greatest wonder of the century. Phoenix-like it has risen from its ashes and, leaving occasional spots where ruins of the great devastation are in evidence, it is one of the best built and handsomest cities on the continent. Just now the entire citizenship is bent upon a united purpose—to make the Panama Exposition of 1915 the very acme of all such events—and I haven't the faintest doubt that the dream will be realized. The men in charge have

the money, the ability and the energy necessary to dazzle the world with their achievements and the world will be welcomed to the big show with that spirit of hospitality for which San Francisco has always been famous.

On January 23, we embarked on the good ship "Mongolia," one of the finest of the Pacific Mail Steamship company's fleet, for our 2100-mile voyage on the great Western Sea and steamed through the Golden Gate out of famous San Francisco Bay. To show the contrast to the Atlantic, we never sighted a sail until we reached these islands. One night the smoke of the "Cleveland," the great excursion steamer that carried our fellowtownsmen, Frank Douglas and Charley Hayner and their wives, was seen low down on the horizon. A few days before we had received word by wireless of her ramming the cruiser Colorado in the harbor here and the death of the pilot at his post.

Our experience on the water was pleasant. All of our party were good sailors and not one of us missed a meal, though the sea for the first two days out of port was a little rough and we were delayed twenty-four hours by head winds and seven instead of six days were consumed in the trip. There was a jolly set of passengers on board and many amusements pleasantly whiled away the hours and the infinite fascination of the sea, with its varying colors, never became wearisome or monotonous.

It was a bright and beautiful tropical morning when we sighted Diamond Head and steamed into Honolulu harbor. Our landing was quickly made and we entered at once into a city ablaze with flowers. Royal palms met our sight on every hand. The hedges of hibiscus were gorgeous in their scarlet bloom and the bougainvillea vine clothed the houses in a profusion of crimson and gold.

An automobile ride of five miles brought us to the Moana hotel, where we are making our home. It is an ideal sea-side resort. Built right on the beach of Waikiki bay, the finest and safest bathing in the world is found in the shallow waters within

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